



## CATAWBA COUNTY

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P.O. BOX 669    Newton, North Carolina    28658-0669    (828) 695-5600    **Catawba County Social Services**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: Nov. 2, 2011**

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### **RULES HAVE CHANGED FOR LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

HICKORY, N.C. — The state has changed the rules for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) this year.

Eligibility for this program is based on specific financial and non-financial requirements. All applications will be taken at The Salvation Army. Households will no longer receive a LIEAP check in February. A check will be issued to the company providing your household with heat, such as the power, gas or fuel oil company.

First priority will be for households in which **all** members are 60 or older, **or** at least one household member is disabled (receiving SSI, SSA or VA disability payments) **and** receiving services through the Department of Aging and Adult Services. Those applying must bring verification that you meet the above criteria. Applications for households meeting these criteria will be taken Dec. 1 through March 31, or until funds are exhausted.

Applications for all other households may be taken Feb. 1, if there are funds remaining, and continue through March 31, or until funds are exhausted. For more information about LIEAP, contact Karen Heffner at 828-695-5625.

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